(vi) Additional burden on account of purchase of foreign exchange at market rate consequent to changes introduced in the Finance Act, 1992, etc.;

(c) The following steps have been taken to improve the financial performance:

(i) Readjustment of schedules matching with demand;

(ii) Economising on aricraft fuel consumption by shortening of routes, optimisation of speed/cruise levels etc.;

(iii) Reduction of establishment expenses;

(iv) Non-operational expenditure on civil works, furniture, fixtures, office equipment, etc. are avoided/deferred as far as possible;

(v) Readjustment of passenger fares and freight rates;

(vi) Frequent pre-flight checks to avoid wastage on food uplift/catering items.

Transporting International passengers by Air India

1118. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of Air India at present in transporting international passengers;

(b) how does it compare with the figures for the years 1960, 1970 and 1980;

(c) what are the reasons for decline in Air India's share in the international passenger transportation; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to increase the business of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Air India's share of international passenger air transport market was 43.9 per cent, 41.5 per cent, 39.3 per cent and 31.4 per cent in the year 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990 respectively.

(c) and (d) International air transport is fiercely competitive; over the year, a number of carriers operating to India have increased their frequency and capacity. These competitors also fly to more destinations world-wide. Air India has not been able to expand its capacity at the same rate and, therefore, a decline has occurred in its market share. In order to arrest this declining trend, Air India has developed a fleet renewal and expansion plan upto the year 2010-11 which envisages increase of seating capacity. The fleet plan also envisages a 10-year roll over policy for aircraft which is expected to result in improved on-time performance, better passenger appeal. Air India also aims at improvement in the quality of its service in general to meet competition from other carriers.

Cases against Vice-Presiednt of I.T.D.C.

1119. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of cases against the Vice-President (Project Engineering) of I.T.D.C. which have been investigated or are under investigation by CBI/CVC till date;

(b) whether it is a fact that CVC has recommended in one of the cases 'major penalty action' against Vice-President (PE) I.T.D.C. and his General Manager (E&M); and

(c) if so, what are the details of the said case and action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a)

The folliwing 3 cases have been investigated by CBI/CVC against Vice-President (Project Engineering) of ITDC:—

(i) irregularities in the award of contract for expansion of Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubneshwar.

(ii) irregularities in awarding the contract for expansion of Hotel Jaipur Ashok, Jaipur.

(iii) irregularities in the award of work relating to installation of Master Antenna T.V. system in ITDC hotels.

(b) and (c) The C.V.C. have recommended major penalty action in the third case in part (a) above. The recommendations are being examined in ITDC.

Development of Tourism in Kerala

1120. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the details of the projects which are being considered for the promotion of tourism in the State of Kerala during the 8th plan period as well as for the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): The National Action Plan for Tourism presented in the Parliament includes the development of Bekal beach in the State of Kerala for intensive development as a special tourism area.

Upgrading Trivandrum Airport

1121. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to reply of Starred Question 151 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd November, 191 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the development of Trivandrum airport as an international airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Trivandrum is an international airport already. The International Airports Authority of India has formulated long term development and modernisation plans for the airport. The security lounge and domestic departure have been airconditioned.

Airconditioning of the arrival area is expected by December, 1993. Provisions has also been made for a New Terminal Complex, besides other works, such as cargo complex, security fencing roads, improvement of runway, taxiways, apron, etc.

Indian Airlines staff adopting go slow tactics

1122. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines staff has been adopting "go slow" tactics in protest against what is called the open sky policy;

(b) if so, whether any private sector entrepreneures have been permitted to operate in any sector, if so, the details of the flights operated by them and

(c) what steps are being taken to normalise the Indian Airlines operations, indicating the number and details of the flights cancelled or delayed as a result of such go slow tactics

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Air Taxi operators are free to operate to/from all airports in the country open to scheduled operation

(c) Does not arise.